IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A product, comprising mineral fibers ~~which~~ that have been coated with a sizing composition, wherein:

the sizing composition comprises ~~comprising~~ a liquid resin and a crosslinking agent~~,~~;

~~wherein~~ the liquid resin exhibits a dilutability in water at 20°C at least equal to ~~1~~ ~~000~~1,000%~~, and~~;

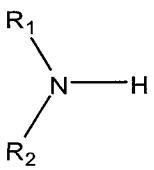
the liquid resin comprises at least 70% by weight of condensates obtained ~~from~~ by reacting a phenolic compound~~,~~ simultaneously with formaldehyde and an aminoalcohol according to the Mannich reaction~~,~~;

~~wherein~~ the mineral fibers comprise glass or rock~~,~~; ~~and~~

the product is selected from the group consisting of (1) a tissue mat of ~~said~~ the mineral fibers and having a weight per unit area of between 10 and 300 g/m^2, (2) a thermal and/or sound insulation product obtained by forming a blanket ~~of said~~ the sized mineral fibers, and (3) ~~said~~ the thermal and/or sound insulation product having ~~said fiber~~ the tissue mat positioned over at least one of its external faces.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the phenolic compound is phenol, a cresol, resorcinol or a mixture of these compounds.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the aminoalcohol is selected from the group consisting of the compounds of formula



wherein R_1 and R_2, which are identical or different, represent H or a linear or branched C_1-C_{10} hydrocarbonaceous chain which can comprise one or more unsaturations and one or more OH radicals, at least one of R_1 or R_2 comprising at least one OH radical.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The product as claimed in claim 3, wherein the OH radical is carried by the terminal carbon atom of the hydrocarbonaceous chain.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The product as claimed in claim 4, wherein the aminoalcohol is monoethanolamine or diethanolamine.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the resin exhibits a level of free formaldehyde of less than 0.4%.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the resin exhibits a level of free phenolic compound of less than 0.02%.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the resin exhibits a level of free formaldehyde of less than 0.25%, a level of free phenolic compound of less than 0.01% and an infinite dilutability.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the resin exhibits a level of ash of less than 0.04% by weight of dry resin.

Claims 10-14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A process for the preparation of a liquid resin exhibiting a dilutability in water at 20°C at least equal to ~~1 000~~1,000%, comprising at least 70% by weight of condensates obtained from a phenolic compound, formaldehyde and an aminoalcohol according to the Mannich reaction~~,~~

~~which comprises~~the method comprising:

~~in~~ reacting a phenolic compound, formaldehyde and an aminoalcohol according to the Mannich reaction in a formaldehyde/phenolic compound molar ratio of greater than 1, the formaldehyde and the aminoalcohol being reacted simultaneously with the phenolic compound, and

~~in~~ cooling the reaction mixture,

wherein the formaldehyde and amino alcohol are introduced into the phenolic compound after having been mixed beforehand.

Claim 16 (Canceled)

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sizing composition comprises expressed as parts of dry matter, from 18 to 65 parts by weight of resin and from 10 to 82 parts by weight of crosslinking agent.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the crosslinking agent is a compound comprising at least two functional groups capable of reacting with the amine functional groups or the hydroxyl functional groups of the resin.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The product as claimed in claim 18, wherein the crosslinking agent is formaldehyde, an amine, an acid, a poly(carboxylic or acrylic acid) of

high molecular mass, of the order of 500, an anhydride of these acids or a mixture of these compounds.

Claims 20-21 (Canceled)

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The product as claimed in claim 1, which is (1) a tissue mat of mineral fibers.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The product of claim 1, which is (2) a thermal and/or sound insulation product.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The product of claim 1, which is (3) said thermal and/or sound insulation product comprising said fiber tissue mat positioned over at least one of its external faces.